

JUL 2

1959

THE
NEW BRUNSWICK
MUSEUM

DIOCESAN CHURCH SOCIETY,

NEW BRUNSWICK.



Occasional Paper No. 10.



GORDON AND LORNE.

THE last occasional paper of the Society gave some account of the work which had been done, and which still remained to be done, NORTH OF WOODSTOCK. In a subsequent paper, issued by the Needs Committee of the Diocese, an earnest recommendation was made that a new Mission to be called "Gordon and Lorne," after the two Parishes on the Tobique River, should be formed as soon as possible. In this paper we would speak of the formation of this Mission, and the splendid work done in consequence.

In July 1889 Mr. John Richard Hopkins came out from the old country to do work; and he was at once ordained Deacon, and went to work in Gordon and Lorne on the Tobique.

He found a little building framed and boarded in, and roofed, but still unfinished, at Birch Ridge, the only place like a Church in his sixty mile long Mission. He was not one to be easily daunted, and the greatness of the work seemed only to nerve him to greater activity. While he worked from Birch Ridge to Riley Brook (sixty miles), he first concentrated his attention upon finishing the Church which had been commenced at Birch Ridge.

The Church was finished and consecrated in May, 1890, within

a year of his arrival. The beauty of the position, referred to in a former paper, has now been enhanced by further clearing of the woods. For the cutting down of the trees has opened a glimpse of water, "the eye of the landscape," which now gives perfection to a glorious view. The Church stands well and high, and when it can be beautified with a tower and spire, and enlivened by a bell, the settlement may well be proud of its first place for worship of Almighty God.

The Church has been named S. Bartholomew, the only Apostle of whom nothing is said in Scripture, and all that is recorded is only his name. This gave rise to the beautiful sermon preached by the famous Bishop Selwyn of New Zealand, who took as his text for a missionary sermon, the word only, the name, Bartholomew. On the day of consecration fifteen persons were confirmed as a first fruits of the work of Mr. Hopkins. Thus was Whitsunday, May 25, 1890, a day much to be remembered on the Tobique, as the day of the consecration of the first Church on that beautiful river.

Since then the work has been creeping on ; indeed the progress has been too rapid to allow of the phrase "creeping on."

By the watchful care of Mr. Hoyt, to whom the Bishop of the Diocese gave the charge of the work NORTH OF WOODSTOCK, a building has been secured 8 miles from Birch Ridge, at Arthurette, which is now being used as a Church, and will (it is hoped) shortly be consecrated under the name of St. Machutus, a Welsh Saint commemorated in the English Church on November 15. The building at one time belonged to the Methodist Conference ; but as the Methodists were unable to effect a settlement in that neighbourhood, they were content to sell the building.

Further on, eleven miles, at a very convenient place on Sisson Ridge, the energy of Mr. Hopkins has set on fire the eagerness of the people, and a Church is in process of building, which, it is hoped, will be ready for consecration (if the faithful outside the

settlement will help) in June next, under the name of St. David, the great Saint of Wales.

The Church was commenced in July last. The only saw-mill at all near by is owned by one who (to say the least) had no sympathy with the progress of the Church, and refused to saw the logs for the building. But the eagerness of the Church folk was not to be discouraged. The frame was hewn out, and the boards were purchased from one who had procured them for his own barn, but was content to wait, for the sake of the Church.

Soon after the Church was commenced at Sisson Ridge, a confirmation was held in Birch Ridge Church, upon July 19, when 35 persons were confirmed, of whom 17 were men, and 18 women. The day was most unpropitious, wind and rain not only threatened, but carried their threats into effect; but the stormy weather did not hinder crowds coming from all parts of Mr. Hopkins' Mission. The service was most interesting and encouraging. The universality of the responding, the heartiness of the singing (this was only prevented from being universal from natural defect in some), the earnestness of all, made the service most helpful and inspiring. In the neighbourhood of the Church an army of teams bore witness to the earnestness and determination of many from a great distance to attend. After the service Mr. Hopkins proved that he and his helpful wife had great powers of organization, for in the rough unplastered house in which he was living, he and she managed to provide bountiful hospitality for about sixty people.

The Church at Sisson Ridge will seat about 160, and will (it is hoped) prove a great convenience and blessing. Two more little Churches are needed in this wide district, one at or near "Foster Cove," which is about 8 miles from Sisson Ridge Church; and one at Riley Brook, twenty miles further up the River Tobique.

As in the future, when the rich farming belt between the Tobique and Restigouche is opened up, and in consequence the country becomes more thickly populated, this great Mission must be divi-

ded and sub-divided, and for this some provision should be made. The settlement of Birch Ridge forms a convenient centre for the lower part of the Mission, and as there is an opportunity of securing a Rectory and glebe at this place, an attempt is being made to raise a fund for the purchase of the property for this purpose. There are one hundred acres of land, of which forty acres have been cleared and stumped, and cultivated. The land is very good land, and is bearing very good crops. On the land, well situated, is a very good, well built frame house, with an excellent barn, and good granary. The price asked is fifteen hundred dollars, and experts report that it is well worth the money. A subscription list has been opened, and money may be paid into the "Gordon Glebe Account Fund," at the Bank of New Brunswick, St. John, N. B.

At present the list is as follows :

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| The Metropolitan | | | \$ 50 00 |
| The Dean of St. Paul's, London, G. B., £5 | | | 24 33 |
| J. A. Kingdon, Esq., £10 | | | 48 66 |
| The Bishop Coadjutor | | | 100 00 |
| G. A. Schofield, Esq., | | | 10 00 |